

Application No.: 10/079,443

Docket No.: 064422-5002US

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method for preparing a mesoporous composition, comprising the steps of:

(A) dissolving a first compound possessing amphipathic properties together with an alumina source in a first solvent to form a mixture, wherein the first compound is capable of forming a micellar structure;

(B) stirring the mixture of step (A);

(C) adding a second solvent to the stirred mixture of step (B) accompanied by further stirring;

(D) aging the further stirred mixture of step (C) to form a product;

(E) evaporating the product of step (D); and,

(F) washing, filtering and drying the evaporated product of step (E).

2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the first compound of step (A) is an alpha-tocopherol polyethylene glycol ester.

3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 2, wherein the alpha-tocopherol polyethylene glycol ester is d-alpha-tocopheryl polyethylene glycol succinate (vitamin E TPGS).

4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the first solvent of step (A) is selected from the group consisting of *sec*-butanol, ethanol and water.

5. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the alumina source is Al tri-*sec*-butoxide.

6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein step (B) is carried out at 25-30°C for 3-4 hours.

7. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the aging in step (D) is carried out at 70-95°C for 2-7 days.

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8. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 7, wherein the aging in step (D) is more preferably carried out at 90°C for 2 days.
9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the product of step (D) is evaporated at 90°C for 10 hours.
10. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 3 wherein, the amount of vitamin E TPGS ranges from 0.3 to 0.9 g.
11. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 4 wherein, the amount of *sec*-butanol is 25 ml.
12. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said second solvent comprises water and *sec*-butanol.
13. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 12, wherein the amount of water is 1.08 g and the amount of *sec*-butanol is 10 ml.
14. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the further stirred mixture of step C comprises alumina, vitamin E TPGS, water and *sec*-butanol.
15. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 14, wherein the molar ratio of alumina, vitamin E TPGS, water and *sec*-butanol is 100:1-3:300:270.
- 16-38. (Canceled).